

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for increasing the efficiency of a refrigerator condenser assembly including a tube and wire member having an inner edge and an outer edge, said method comprising the steps of:

forming the tube and wire member into a spiral including first and second ends and a longitudinal passageway therebetween, said tube having an outer diameter and a substantially circular cross section; ~~and~~

closing the first end, thereby preventing longitudinal air flow through the first end; and

drawing air flow into the longitudinal passageway in a direction substantially perpendicular to the tube and wire member.

2. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of forming the tube and wire member into a spiral comprises the step of bending a flat tube and wire member into a spiral.

3. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 2 wherein the tube and wire member includes a plurality of U-shaped segments attached to a plurality of parallel wires, said step of bending the tube and wire member comprises the step of bending the plurality of U-shaped tube segments about an axis parallel to the wires.

4. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of forming the tube and wire member into a spiral comprises the step of forming a spiral with fewer than about five wraps.

5. (canceled)

6. (original) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said step of closing the first end comprises the step of mounting a baffle over the first end of the tube and wire member.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising a refrigerator condenser comprising a spiraled tube and wire member defining a longitudinal passage and a closed

end, said spiraled tube having an outer diameter and a substantially circular cross section, said closed end preventing longitudinal air flow therethrough such that the air flow is drawn substantially perpendicular to said tube and wire member.

8. (original) A refrigerator condenser in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said spiraled tube and wire member comprises a plurality of U-shaped segments.

9. (currently amended) A refrigerator condenser in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said spiraled tube and wire member comprises:

a longitudinal axis extending along said passage;

a first end;

a second end; and

a said passage extending through said tube and wire member between said first end and said second end, one of said first and second ends ~~being closed~~ defining said closed end.

10. (original) A refrigerator condenser in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said passage is asymmetrically rounded.

11. (original) A refrigerator condenser in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said tube and wire member comprises an inner edge, an outer edge, and a longitudinal axis, said inner edge and said outer edge substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis, said inner edge a first radial distance from said longitudinal axis, said outer edge a second radial distance from said longitudinal axis, said second radial distance larger than said first radial distance.

12. (original) A refrigerator condenser in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said tube and wire member further comprises a spiraled edge comprising at least one wrap of said wire and tube member.

13. (original) A refrigerator condenser in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said spiraled edge comprises between one to about four wraps of said tube and wire member.

14. (currently amended) A refrigerator condenser assembly comprising:

a spiraled tube and wire member comprising a first end, a second end, and a passage therebetween, said spiraled tube having an outer diameter and a substantially circular cross section;

a fan blade assembly mounted at said second end and external to said passage;

and

a closure member mounted at said first end, said closure member preventing air from entering said passage through said first end, and said closure member configured to facilitate drawing air into said passage in a substantially perpendicular direction with respect to said spiraled tube and wire member.

15. (original) A refrigerator condenser assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said closure member comprises a baffle.

16. (original) A refrigerator condenser assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said tube and wire member further comprises a plurality of U-shaped segments.

17. (original) A refrigerator condenser assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said passage is asymmetrically rounded.

18. (original) A refrigerator condenser assembly in accordance with Claim 14 wherein said tube and wire member further comprises an inner edge, an outer edge, and a longitudinal axis, said inner edge and said outer edge substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis, said inner edge a first radial distance from said longitudinal axis, said outer edge a second radial distance from said longitudinal axis, said second radial distance larger than said first radial distance.

19. (original) A refrigerator condenser assembly in accordance with Claim 18 wherein said tube and wire member further comprises a spiraled edge comprising at least one wrap of said wire and tube member.

20. (original) A refrigerator condenser assembly in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said spiraled edge comprises between about one to about four wraps of said tube and wire member.

21. (previously presented) A refrigerator condenser comprising a tube coupled to a wire member and formed into a spiral, said tube having an outer diameter and a substantially circular cross section, said spiraled tube and wire member defining a continuous layered condenser surface.

22. (previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising the step of mounting a rotatable fan blade assembly at the second end of the longitudinal passageway, the fan blade drawing air into the longitudinal passageway substantially perpendicularly to an outer surface of the tube and wire member.